

missions. This intense mission meant towing a target behind the aircraft, a target that training aerial gunners would practice shooting using live ammunition. It was one of the most dangerous missions the WASP would be asked to perform. Florence mastered it with courage, skill and dedication.

Later, after being transferred to Pueblo Army Air Base, Florence would pilot B-24s, B-25s, UC-78s, and L-5s, primarily in administrative piloting duties. In all, Florence Marston piloted ten different aircraft types as a WASP.

Like the other WASP, Florence Marston was a trailblazer and true patriot. She paved the way for the armed services to lift the ban on women attending military flight training in the 1970s, and eventually led to women being fully integrated as pilots in the U.S. military. We owe her our "thank you"—not in words, but in deeds. Her story should have never been a forgotten chapter in American history. It will no longer be.

I was proud to fight for legislation to award the WASP the most distinguished honor Congress can give: the Congressional Gold Medal. Now the bill has been passed and signed into law. The process of designing, casting, and presenting these medals has begun. And I look forward to the day, very soon, when I can present Florence Marston and all the other WASP this medal they have earned and so long deserved.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:53 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 685. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study regarding the proposed United States Civil Rights Trail, and for other purposes.

H.R. 905. An act to expand the boundaries of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2950. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow for prepayment of repayment contracts between the United States and the Uintah Water Conservancy District.

H.R. 3123. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to remedy problems caused by a collapsed drainage tunnel in Leadville, Colorado, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 186. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month.

At 3:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2997) making appropriation for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints the following Members as managers of the conference on the part of the House: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. FARR, Mr. BOYD, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. OBEY, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. LATHAM, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. LEWIS of California.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) reported that he had signed the following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 3607. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3614. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 6:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2131. An act to amend the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 to reauthorize the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

H.R. 3593. An act to amend the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 to extend by one year the operation of Radio Free Asia, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 6:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2918. An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the Majority Leader.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 685. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study regarding the proposed United States Civil Rights Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2950. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow for prepayment of repayment contracts between the United States and the Uintah Water Conservancy District; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 905. An act to expand the boundaries of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. DORGAN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with amendments:

H.R. 1129. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans (Rept. No. 111-84).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. HARKIN from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*George H. Cohen, of Virginia, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director.

*Alexa E. Posny, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

*Brenda Dann—Messier, of Rhode Island, to be Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. KYL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 1727. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for the appointment of additional Federal circuit judges, to divide the Ninth Judicial Circuit of the United States to 2 circuits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself and Mr. MERKLEY):